

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on May 17, 2005.

Claim 7 is amended, no claims are canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 1-21 remain pending in this application.

Numbering and Drawings Objections

The paragraph on page 5 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Typographical errors have also been corrected on pages 6 and 7 as detailed above under amendments to the specification. The reference number 303 has been deleted from the specification and replaced with the intended number 318. As a result of the typographical correction to the specification, Applicant submits that no correction to the drawings is necessary. No new matter is added as a result of these corrections.

Claims Objections

Claim 1 was objected to because of informalities. The objection states that, "In claim 1, lines 7-8, it is unclear what is recited through the use of "cold formed features."

Applicant respectfully submits that specific "cold formed features" are discussed in the specification at least on page 6, line 25 through page 7, line 29 for example. Examples of cold formed features include: "asperities or surface features being embedded within the flowed portion of the thermal interface structure 310;" "work hardening of the thermal interface structure 310;" and an absence of voids between normally incompatible materials, etc.

One of ordinary skill in the art would be able to detect such features using techniques such as cross sectioning, hardness testing, etc. Applicant respectfully submits that sufficient physical examples of "cold formed features" have been sufficiently described in the specification, as cited above, to overcome the present objection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim 7 recites the limitation "mating materials" in line 3. The pending Office Action stated that there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Applicant has

amended claim 7 as suggested by the examiner to moot any antecedent basis issues.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 7 is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-9 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection(s) set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection(s) set forth in this Office Action.

Applicant has not amended claims 2-9 to independent form at this time. Applicant has not amended claim 1 at this time, since it is believed that claim 1 is allowable in view of arguments presented above. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration of withdrawn claims

Claims 1-9 were indicated as belonging to a species in the Restriction Requirement mailed on January 14, 2005. In this Restriction Requirement, at least claim 1 was indicated as being generic. Should the Examiner agree that claim 1 is in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests examination and allowance of currently withdrawn claims 10-21 pursuant to MPEP §809.04.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney ((612) 373-6944) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

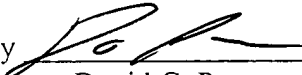
Respectfully submitted,

SABINA J. HOULE ET AL.

By their Representatives,

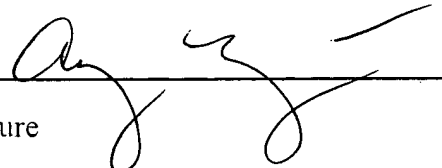
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Date 8-17-05

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 17th day of August, 2005.

Amy Moriarty
Name


Signature